REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The foregoing amendment and the following arguments are provided to impart precision to the claims, by more particularly pointing out the invention, rather than to avoid prior art.

35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 4 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant has responded to the rejections with the foregoing amendments.

35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 1, 5-8, 11-13, 17-20, and 24-33 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,223,284 (hereinafter "Novoa").

Examiner also rejected claims 1-4, 6, 8-10, 12-16, 19-23, 26, 31, and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,884,312 (hereinafter "Dunstan").

To anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim. A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is

found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. (Manual of Patent Examining Procedures (MPEP) ¶ 2131.)

Applicant's independent claims include limitations not disclosed in Dunstan or Novoa. Therefore, applicant's independent claims are not anticipated by Dunstan or Novoa.

In particular, applicant's claims include the limitation, or limitation similar thereto, of:

> . . . transmitting from the service processor a challenge string to the requesting client application, the challenge string includes a sequence number that increments with each new session; receiving in the service processor a challenge response from the requesting client application, the response including a hash number that is a function of at least one of the challenge string, session identification number, sequence number, and a password; . . . (Applicant's amended Claim 1.)

Neither Dunstan or Novoa discloses applicant's claimed limitation of transmitting from the service processor a challenge string that includes a sequence number that increments with each new session, and receiving a challenge response including a hash number that is a function of either the challenge string, session identification number, sequence number, or a password. Therefore, as a result of neither Dunstan or Novoa disclosing applicant's claimed limitation, applicant's independent claims are not anticipated by Dunstan or Novoa.

Furthermore, the remaining claims depend from at least one of the independent claims, and therefore include the distinguishing limitations of the independent claims. As a result, applicant's remaining claims are also not anticipated by Dunstan or Novoa.
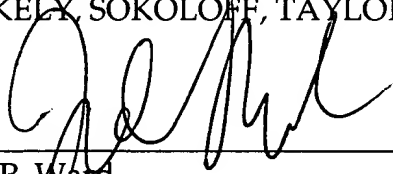
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call John Ward at (408) 720-8300, x237.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

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